IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/822,477 Examiner: Hu, Jinsong Filed: April 12, 2004 Group/Art Unit: 2154 Inventors: 5681-76200 Atty. Dkt. No: Bruce D. Alexander, et al. Title: System and Method for **Application Resource** Utilization Metering and Cost Allocation in a Utility **Computing Environment**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF NOVEMBER 21, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of November 21, 2007, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.